BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Annual Report 1985–1986

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BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Almost every community in the Province is linked with the Council through individual, family and group members, affiliated agencies and contact persons, providing a wide information-sharing network. Membership alone, represents over 100 communities.

The Provincial Government, through the Ministry of Social Services and Housing, supports the work of the Council by providing office space and salaries for a director and assistant, who are assisted by 9 part-time volunteers. Programs are funded by donations, grants and membership fees.

The work of the Council is based on the belief that families, although changing and adapting as they have through history, do have great strengths, and, if given help when needed, and enough power, can be a major force for the betterment of our society.

We believe that healthy families contribute to healthy communities and a healthy society.

The British Columbia Council for the Family welcomes your interest and support.

The British Columbia Council for the Family, operating under the *Society Act* of British Columbia, has three objectives:

(a) To be a forum where responsible representatives of communities throughout the Province may communicate to each other, and to government and voluntary agencies, their concerns about the needs of the family and receive help in preparing plans and projects to meet such needs;

(b) To stimulate and facilitate self-help projects to support and strengthen families;

(c) In association with appropriate bodies, local, provincial, national or international, to further public knowledge and promote public concern about the well-being of the family.

The British Columbia Council for the Family is a non-profit organization which was incorporated March 23, 1977. The Council is the only provincial agency wholly concerned with the well-being of families.

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

Annual Report for the Year Ending March 31, 1986

Board of Directors

Officers of the Society:

President	Norm Worsley	Victoria
Past President	Lyall Simpson	Richmond
1st Vice President	Rob Lees	Chilliwack
2nd Vice President	Lois Powell	Victoria
Secretary	Margaret Peters	Victoria
Treasurer	Bill Sanders	Victoria

Board of Directors:

Tunya Audain	West Vancouver
Marilyn Bailey	Terrace
Helene Banner	Port Alberni
Tom Beames	Ladysmith
Joan Berlow	Vancouver
Dennis Brammer	Victoria
Dr. Peter Carter	Port Alberni
Shirley Cohn	Burnaby
Rev. Murray Cornelius	Vancouver
Janet Crawford	West Vancouver
Barj Dhahan	Vancouver
Marilyn Fane	Chilliwack
Marjorie Ford	Smithers
Rev. Robert Foulis	New Westminster
Gloria Harris	Victoria
Bea Hodgson	Summerland
Hazel Huckvale	Williams Lake
Susan Hunter	Prince George
Carolyn Iles	Nanaimo
Anita Kam	Delta
Aziz Khaki	Vancouver
Chuck Luttrell	Vancouver
Kathy Lynn	Vancouver
Steve Norris	Coquitlam
Beatrice Oleman	Shalalth
Cassandra Perry	Salmon Arm
Blaine Powel	Dawson Creek
Major Michael Rich	Vancouver
Nancy Roseborough	Victoria
John Voykin	Castlegar
Winnifred Weir	Invermere

Staff:

Executive Director:	Dr. Carol Matusicky
Executive Assistant:	Diane E. Taylor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1986 has been an exciting year for British Columbia. The outstanding success of Expo, the election of a new premier, the unmistakeable signs that the economy is once again on the move, all encourage a feeling of new hope and optimism. I have the same feeling about the B.C. Council for the Family. As we move into 1987 and celebrate out 10th birthday, I am confident that the dedicated efforts of everyone who has had a part in bringing this organization to where it is today, will be amply rewarded as we see more and more young parents, single parent families, two-parent families, couples contemplating marriage, blended families, people from all walks of life and all faiths and nationalities, benefitting from our caring and sharing network and our ever increasing library of manuals and pamphlets. In my opinion, our past success and our future success is entirely dependent on our ability to provide a service that gives support and encouragement to people enabling them to provide for themselves the "ounce of prevention" that so often can take the place of "a pound of cure."

With the passage of time, many organizations get set in their ways and continue to do things because that's what they have always done, without regard to changing conditions. In the short history of the B.C. Council for the Family this has not been the pattern, and I trust it never will be. In an effort to ensure that our programs continue to keep pace with perceived needs the executive hopes that, in the near future, we will be able to initiate a province-wide re-evaluation of our original objectives and thereby establish directions for the next ten years. This will require a lot of work and cooperation from many people, but it will be invaluable if we are to continue to respond to the wide range of family needs in British Columbia.

Another reason for a feeling of optimism stems from the appointment of Andrew Armitage as the Superintendent of Child and Family Services. Our tie with the Provincial Government is through the Ministry of Social Services and Housing and in particular the Superintendent of Child and Family Services. Mr. Armitage has shown a keen interest in the B.C. Council for the Family, and we look forward to a continued rewarding relationship with him and the Ministry.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Executive Director, Carol Matusicky, and her Assistant, Diane Taylor, our many volunteer staff workers and part-time helpers, together with all the Regional Representatives and other Board Members for their continuing dedication and untiring efforts on behalf of the Council.

It has been a privilege to be your President for the last two years and I wish the Council every success in the years to come.

NORM WORSLEY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The following Annual Report highlights the Council's activities for the fiscal year April 1, 1985 – March 31, 1986. To the numerous individuals and groups involved in the Council's work over the past year I express my heartfelt appreciation.

The B.C. Council for the Family has, during 1985–86, experienced a busy year completing several projects, initiating new ones, continuing to service its members and working towards strengthening family life in B.C.

The activities of the year will be presented under the following topics — *project funding, publications, networking and liaison,* and *new initiatives.*

Funding from the *Secretary of State* enabled the Council to continue supporting International Youth Year activities. The Council sponsored a Youth Conference (FOCUS ON YOUTH AND THE FAMILY) in preparation for I.Y.Y in September, 1984 and during I.Y.Y., continued the momentum by sponsoring an essay/poetry and poster contest. Awards were given for the three winning posters and a collection of poems and essays, written and printed by young people, was published under the title LISTEN TO US. The Council also designed and produced a poster commemorating International Youth Year for distribution throughout the province. In the Fall of 1985 a second provincial youth conference — SHARING THE FUTURE — was sponsored by the Council and held at Britannia Community Services, Vancouver. A special thanks to Thelma Lindsay and Mike Dignan of Britannia Community Services for their generous support and hospitality.

Vancouver Foundation funding enabled the Council to complete the manuscripts for four handbooks on topics that are not only current, but for which there are very few "made in B.C." resources. Three of the four manuals are now available — *Blended Families Handbook; Single Parents Handbook; Growth in Marriage Handbook.* The fourth publication, *Parents of Teens Handbook,* will be available in the Fall of 1986. To the coordinator of the project, Lyail Simpson and to the writers and illustrators — Faith Magwood, Mary Douglas-Crampton, Kathy Doyle, Rob Lees, Kathy Lynn, Judy Assoon, Gary Hogberg, Richelle Bradshaw, and Dianne Pollock, thank you for your talent and your patience in seeing the manuals from the idea stage through to their published state.

The Council, from its inception, has celebrated the strengths and promoted the enrichment of all family life in B.C. Another step in this direction was made through *Canada Employment and Immigration's* support of the Council's publication of MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE: A MULTIFAITH HERITAGE. This resource book represents the culmination of countless hours of research, interviews and correspondence and highlights the richness, diversity and commonalities among religions in their interpretations of healthy family life. The final publication was written by Daniel Kreller, Bernice Montgomery and Helen Myers.

With funding from *Health and Welfare Canada* the Council held a provincial consultation in November with persons directly or indirectly involved in the field of marriage preparation within the province. Concerns emerging from the consultation revolved around strengthening standards and increasing public demand for marriage preparation. The consultation re-confirmed the need for promoting and strengthening the field of marriage preparation. Formal proposals have been forwarded to both the federal and provincial government requesting funds to establish an Office of Marriage Preparation Development as an integral part of the Council's activities. This is seen as a long-term goal for the Council but one that we are systematically working towards. The Council is indebted to all who wrote letters of support to provincial and federal government officials.

The Council was also involved in the planning and implementation of three other Conferences during the 1985/86 fiscal year. The 9th Western Canadian Conference on Family Practice, in conjunction with the Canadian Association for Treatment & Study of the Family (June 5–9, 1985), was a multi-disciplinary conference that attracted national and international attendance. The Council was one of the co-sponsors of the SPARC (Social Planning & Research Council of B.C.) Conference 85 — "Making Sense of Change: Transition Between Economies", (June 7 and 8) and Children's Rights Conference (November 11, 1985) held at the Justice Institute of B.C.

Publications remain one of the Council's major activities. As well as the publications noted above, this year the Council added a new pamphlet entitled TRANSITION: LEAVING AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP. Compiled by Laura Hotson of Victoria Women's Transition House, the pamphlet outlines some common feelings and experiences of women who leave abusive relationships, common experiences of children and some practical steps

families can take to help themselves through. The pamphlet was printed under the masthead: "Taking a Closer Look" and is the first of a series of pamphlets planned for the coming year. *Notes for Parents*, a set of 12 topics of special interest to parents, early childhood workers, day-care workers, primary teachers, and all those who care for young children, represents another new resource with a focus on prevention, enrichment, self-help, and support.

Networking and Liaison is accomplished in several ways. The Council's quarterly *Newsletter* contains issues of interest to individuals, families, and family serving agencies. *Family Month* celebrated throughout British Columbia during the month of May had for its 1985 theme youth and the family. The caption on the Family Month poster was "Invest in Tomorrow . . . Show Youth the Family Has Love, Care and Understanding . . . Today!" A series of five press releases was distributed to all the community newspapers in British Columbia for use during May. As well, a series of Public Service Announcements was produced and distributed to over 40 radio stations in the province. A special thanks to C-FAX Radio, Victoria, for supporting this project and for dubbing and distributing the Family Month messages.

As a provincial organization the Council has maintained both a formal and informal link with international, national and provincial organizations and agencies. The Council is a member of the International Union of Family Organizations and receives regular communiques from the international office (Paris) and the Canadian office (Quebec). The Council regularly exchanges resources with Family Forum (England). Nationally, the Council is a supporting member of Family Service Canada and the Vanier Institute of the Family. Provincially, the Council networks with individuals and groups in family serving agencies, transition houses, public health and mental health groups.

The Council continues to play an active role in The Provincial Consortium on Educational Services to Families in B.C. The Consortium has been active since 1983 in providing provincial leadership to adult educators and others who are seeking to meet the learning needs of families in transition. The Council is currently involved with the Consortium and the University of Victoria in developing a series of video tapes for use in training a variety of groups in peer counselling skills.

Among the new *initiatives* during 1985/86 the Council began Phase I of an AWARDS PROGRAM. Awards were given to the first Executive Director, Connie Hawley, and to all Past Presidents and Directors who had served six years on the Board. Phase II will be initiated in the 1986/87 fiscal year. It will be entitled "Distinguished Service to Families Award" and will be awarded to an individual or organization for outstanding service to the betterment of family living.

In the coming months the Council will be developing new family resources, planning a celebration of its first 10 years (1987), and continuing its efforts to raise the profile of family life, to share resources and information and to assist in the development of support networks.

To everyone associated with the British Columbia Council for the Family I extend my heartfelt thanks: to the Board of Directors and Executive, thank you for your cooperation, leadership, and untiring involvement; to Diane Taylor, Assistant to the Executive Director, for her dedication, knowledge, and sense of humour; to the competent and faithful core of volunteers — Ivy Cowan, Mina Wilson, Dorothy Reilly, Gloria Sanders, Nancy McAuley, Linda Jones, Trish McLaws, and Cecelia Robb, without whom the Council office could not function. Their commitment to the Council is irreplaceable.

I would like to thank the Honourable Jim Nielsen, Minister of Human Resources, Andrew Armitage, Superintendent of Child and Family Services, Dick Butler, Larry Ohlman, Joan Millar and other Ministry staff for their ongoing interest and encouragement. Your support is very much appreciated. The Council will continue its commitment to supporting and strengthening families and will be unflagging in its promotion of the irrefutable role of the family in shaping the future of our society.

CAROL MATUSICKY, Ph.D.

FAMILY MONTH, 1986

Various threads relating to family were tied together for Family Month 1986:

— Expo 86

— publication of handbooks on Growth in Marriage, Blended Families, Single Parents and Parenting Teens

— multiculturalism

— an update of our founding Family Needs survey.

What emerged was the theme: THE WORLD OF FAMILY: CELEBRATING MULTICULTURAL AND MULTIFAITH TRADITIONS OF FAMILY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A submission was made in September, 1985, to the B.C. Association of Broadcasters, applying for the Humanities Award to assist us in media promotion of Family Month and the Council. Although unsuccessful for this year, we have been invited to re-apply for 1987's award.

An advisory committee met regularly at the University of B.C. to mount a proposed Multicultural Family Needs survey. Applications for funding were made to the Secretary of State and Employment Development Branches of the Federal Government. Funding was not forthcoming.

The Family Month poster, which reads FAMILIES IN B.C. — ROOTED IN A WORLD OF FAITHS AND TRADITIONS was distributed widely throughout the province. News Releases which linked various traditions to the issues explored by our new handbooks appeared in at least twenty community newspapers around the province.

DAVID NORDSTROM
Family Month Coordinator

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members
British Columbia Council for the Family

I have examined the balance sheet of the British Columbia Council for the Family as at March 31, 1986, the statement of revenue and expenditure, the statement of source and application of funds in respect of designated projects, and the statement of revenue expenditure and capital of the Helen Patenaude Endowment Fund for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances, except as noted in the following paragraph.

Donations, by their nature, are not susceptible to complete audit verification. Accordingly my verification of receipts of this type was limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with bank deposits.

In my opinion, except for the effect of any adjustments which might have been required had I been able to completely verify donations, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 1986 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Bruce G. Murray
Chartered Accountant

Victoria, B.C.
August 14, 1986

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 1986

Assets	1986	1985
Current		
Cash	$14,681	$15,668
Cash — project account	3,023	19,186
	17,704	34,854
Fixed		
Office equipment — cost	5,640	
Less: accumulated depreciation	1,128	
	4,512	
Trust fund	2,954	2,708
	$25,170	$37,562
Liabilities, Reserves and Equity		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 2,254	$ 2,202
Reserves		
Projects	3,023	19,186
Private agency fund	151	151
Educational materials fund	200	200
	3,374	19,537
Equity		
Balance, beginning of year	13,115	1,023
Excess of revenue over expenditure for year	3,473	12,092
	16,588	13,115
Trust fund	2,954	2,708
	$25,170	$37,562

On behalf of the Board

G.L. Worsley Director

Director

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1986

	1986	1985
Revenue		
Operating grant — Government of British Columbia (Note 2)	$116,540	$80,793
Grant — Secretary of State (Note 3)	2,200	4,300
Membership fees	6,223	2,877
Donations	3,876	2,705
Interest earned	1,205	1,334
Publications	789	—
	130,833	92,009
Expenditure		
Committee expenses		
Executive	1,427	2,919
Public relations	793	1,776
Family month	951	892
	3,171	5,587
Administration costs (Note 4)	13,421	9,206
Annual meeting	5,435	4,624
Board meetings and regional development	5,742	4,593
Designated projects	2,000	—
Film production	2,500	—
Newsletter	4,284	82
Publications	22,432	1,793
Staff — salaries	52,576	41,965
— employee benefits	9,490	7,118
— travel	5,932	4,566
Miscellaneous	377	383
	127,360	79,917
Excess of revenue over expenditure for year	3,473	12,092

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY
GRANTS FOR DESIGNATED PROJECTS
STATEMENT OF SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1986

	1986	1985
Project funds on hand, beginning of year	$19,186	$ —
Source of funds		
Grants	13,805	49,415
Funds transferred from general account	2,000	—
Interest earned	136	17
	35,127	49,432
Application of funds		
Co-ordination costs	2,378	4,200
Consultation fees	—	795
Graphics and illustrations	6,432	750
Printing, stationery and office	1,730	657
Rent	800	—
Wages and employee benefits	14,456	13,712
Writers	3,500	9,500
Travel	2,808	632
	32,104	30,246
Project funds on hand, end of year (Note 5)	$ 3,023	$19,186

HELEN PATENAUDE ENDOWMENT FUND
(Note 6)
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND CAPITAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1986

	1986	1985
Capital, beginning of year	$ 2,708	$ 2,441
Revenue		
Donations	150	100
Interest earned	103	169
	2,961	2,710
Expenditure		
Bank charges	7	2
Capital, end of year	$ 2,954	$ 2,708

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 1986

1. Significant Accounting Policies

   Revenue recognition

   Operating grants are recorded in the period of accrual.

   Grants for designated projects, and membership fees, are recorded in the period in which they are received.

   Fixed assets and depreciation

   Office equipment is recorded at cost and depreciation is provided on the straight line basis over an estimated useful life of five years.

2. Provincial Government Funding

   The Government of the Province of British Columbia funded the Council's costs of salaries, travel, professional services, office expenses and publications, by means of an operating grant. This grant amounted to $116,540 for the year ended March 31, 1986.

3. International Youth Year Grant

   The 1985 annual general meeting of the Council was combined with a Sharing the Future Conference in recognition of International Year of Youth. A grant from the Secretary of State assisted the funding of this conference.

4. Administration Costs

	1986	1985
Accounting and audit	$ 1,350	$ 1,287
Depreciation — office equipment	1,128	—
Printing, stationery and office	9,757	7,037
Volunteer expenses	989	786
Miscellaneous	197	96
	$13,421	$ 9,206

5. Project Funds

   Unexpended funds of $3,023, which are included as a reserve in the balance sheet, represent the balance of grants received and contributions from general funds at the fiscal year end.

   As the related projects had been completed by March 31, 1986, these funds are available for future projects.

6. Trust Fund

The Helen Patenaude Endowment Fund was established in 1983. It is the intention of the Board that this fund will remain intact until the capital and interest have reached an amount of $10,000.

7. Comparative Figures

Comparative figures presented for the year ended March 31, 1985 have been restated to conform with the presentation adopted for the 1986 fiscal year.